A national laboratory of the U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

NREL National Renewable Energy Laboratory

Innovation for Our Energy Future

Join us for a "bonus" seminar in our series of "brown bag" seminars, sponsored by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). Each seminar is held at NREL's Washington office with a videoconference link to Golden, Colorado. Topics focus on new and innovative renewable energy and energy analysis strategies, models, and technologies.

Large PV – A Tour of a Working System

A seminar presented by DOE/EERE's Office of Planning, Budget, and Analysis and NREL's Strategic Energy Analysis and Applications Center

Otto Van Geet, Senior Engineer
National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)

Thursday, December 13, 2007

10–11 a.m. at Denver's Federal Center

Note: This seminar will be held on-site at the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) Federal Center in Denver. Participants will meet at NREL at 9:30 a.m. and be taken as a group to the site. This will be a walking tour led by Otto Van Geet of NREL and representatives from the GSA and SunEdison (please dress appropriately for an outdoor tour). Attendees must **RSVP** to Pam Lee-Bull (see below) by **December 10** for specific instructions on where to meet. **There will be no webcast or presentation broadcast with this seminar.**

Background: Colorado voters passed Amendment No. 37 in 2004, which required a renewable energy standard for large electrical utilities, and implemented a timetable for these utilities to increase the percentage of their power that comes from renewable resources. Xcel Energy of Colorado issued requests for proposals (RFP) for customer-sited solar photovoltaic (PV) power generation sites in June 2006 in response to this requirement. The General Services Administration (GSA) at the Denver Federal Center (DFC) developed a proposal to build a 1 megawatt system that would generate nearly 10% of the DFC's peak electric demand. The solar park would be comprised of photovoltaic (PV) arrays located on an unused 6-acre site at the DFC. The system would tie directly into the secondary electrical distribution system on the DFC and all the power would be used at the DFC. The proposal was accepted, and GSA secured technical consulting services from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory to support this effort. In May 2007, GSA awarded a contract to SunEdison of Beltsville, Md., for $6.9 million to design and construct the solar park. Construction is underway and power is scheduled to be produced by December 30, 2007. This seminar/tour will highlight the 1.1 MW PV system and show how the system was designed and installed.

Otto Van Geet is a senior engineer at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), working in the Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP). Prior to this assignment, Van Geet was the senior mechanical engineer in the Site Operations group at NREL, and a mechanical engineer at Sandia National Labs. Van Geet has been involved in the design, construction, and operation of energy-efficient R&D facilities for microelectronics, photovoltaic, thermal, and biological research, as well as office and general-use facilities. His experience also includes passive solar building design, use of design tools, photovoltaic (PV) system design, energy audits, and minimizing energy use. Van Geet is a registered professional engineer, a certified energy manager, and a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) accredited professional. Van Geet has a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of New Mexico.

Golden, Colo., information

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